

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Monday, January 6, 2003, the following members were present:

Bob Rowe, Chairman
Tom Schneider, Vice Chairman
Matt Brainard, Commissioner
Greg Jergeson, Commissioner
Jay Stovall, Commissioner

(1) In the matter of the election of a new Chairman; Commissioner Schneider moved to nominate Commissioner Rowe for Chairman. Commissioner Brainard seconded the nomination, which passed unanimously.

(2) In the matter of the election of a new Vice Chairman; Commissioner Jergeson moved to nominate Commissioner Schneider for Vice Chairman. Commissioner Brainard seconded the nomination, which passed unanimously.

(3) In the matter of the appointment of the Commission Secretary; Commissioner Stovall moved to appoint Rhonda Simmons as Commission Secretary. Commissioner Brainard seconded the appointment, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(4) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner Brainard moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of December 30, 2002. Commissioner Rowe seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

JAY STOVALL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Monday, January 6, 2003, the following members were present:

Bob Rowe, Chairman
Tom Schneider, Vice Chairman
Matt Brainard, Commissioner
Greg Jergeson, Commissioner
Jay Stovall, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Dave Burchett

(5) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Energy West Montana's general gas rate case, Docket No. D2002.9.120; Commissioner Schneider moved to suspend the procedural schedule with a status report in 60 days. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Kate Whitney

(6) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Kathy Arnold's complaint against Montana-Dakota Utilities; Commissioner Stovall moved to dismiss the complaint. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Marla Larson

(7) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of the co-sponsorship of the Energy Forum with the Burton K. Wheeler Center; Commissioner Schneider moved to authorize room charges and other incidentals. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Robin McHugh

(8) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Mid-Rivers Extended Area Service to the Billings Region, Docket No. D2001.11.147; Commissioner Stovall moved to grant the permanent protective order. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Wayne Budt

(9) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of legislation; Commissioner Brainard moved to register Steve Vick as a lobbyist. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

In the matter of the Commission's discussion of personnel; Commissioner Brainard moved to approve the job description for utility division administrator with revisions, authorize a national search and salary between \$50,000-65,000. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Schneider moved a substitute motion to change the salary to \$65,000-70,000. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which failed with a vote of 2-3. Commissioners Jergeson and Schneider voted aye. Commissioners Brainard, Rowe and Stovall dissented.

Commissioner Rowe moved to approve the original motion of salary of \$50,000-65,000. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

JAY STOVALL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Thursday, January 9, 2003, the following members were present:

Bob Rowe, Chairman
Tom Schneider, Vice Chairman
Matt Brainard, Commissioner
Greg Jergeson, Commissioner
Jay Stovall, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh, Eric Eck

(10) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of NorthWestern Energy's Application for Determination Pursuant to Federal Law re Contract with Montana Megawatts, Docket No. D2002.10.131 ; Commissioner Brainard moved to deny the motion for reconsideration of NorthWestern Energy. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 4-1. Commissioners Brainard, Jergeson, Rowe and Schneider voted aye. Commissioner Stovall dissented.

Commissioner Schneider moved to instruct staff to convene a conference of interested parties to handle default supply proceedings and this issue. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Mike Lee, Will Rosquist, Marla Larson

(11) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of the FERC SMD NOPR Comments; Commissioner Brainard moved to submit the comments by January 10, 2003, noting the opportunity to submit subsequent filings by February 28, 2003. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh

(12) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of the PPLM v PSC Lawsuit; Commissioner Stovall moved to rescind Order No. 5986t (due to the fact its been made moot by subsequent action). Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

JAY STOVALL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Friday, January 10, 2003, the following members were present:

Bob Rowe, Chairman
Tom Schneider, Vice Chairman
Matt Brainard, Commissioner, via telephone
Greg Jergeson, Commissioner
Jay Stovall, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Wayne Budt

(13) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of legislation, House Bill 218; Commissioner Jergeson moved to support HB 218, transportation of nuclear waste. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

JAY STOVALL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)